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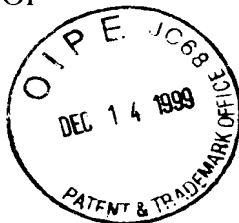
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION OF

**SPRADLING et al.**

Appln. No.: 09/358,937

Filed: July 23, 1999



Group Art Unit: 1643

Examiner: Unknown

TITLE: METHOD FOR MAINTENANCE  
AND PROPAGATION OF GERMLINE STEM  
CELLS USING MEMBERS OF THE TGF- $\beta$   
FAMILY OF GROWTH FACTORS

\* \* \* \* \*

December 14, 1999

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Hon. Commissioner of Patents  
and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Attached is a Form PTO-1449 listing the enclosed documents.

This Information Disclosure Statement is intended to be in full compliance with the rules, but should the Examiner find any part of its required content to have been omitted, prompt notice to that effect is earnestly solicited, along with additional time under Rule 97(f), to enable Applicant to comply fully.

**Contingent Request under Rule 97(c):** Should a first action on the merits have been issued on the same day or before this IDS is filed, please accept this IDS under Rule 97(c) and charge the requisite Rule 17(p) fee to our Deposit Account No. 03-2975 under Order No. 20263/254812 proceed to consider this IDS.

**Contingent Petition under Rule 97(d):** Should a Notice of Allowance have been issued on the same day as or before the filing date of this IDS, please consider this a Petition

Appln. No.: 09/358,937 – SPRADLING et al.

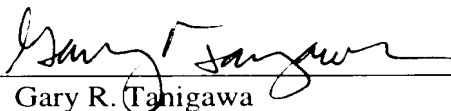
under Rule 97(d), charge the petition fee to our Deposit Account No. 03-3975 under Order No. 20263/254812, and proceed to consider this IDS under Rule 97(d).

Consideration of the foregoing and enclosures plus the return of a copy of the herewith Form PTO-1449 with the Examiner's initials in the left column per MPEP 609 along with an early Action on the merits of this application are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

PILLSBURY MADISON & SUTRO LLP

By



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